Japanese International Co-operation Agency (JICA) to develop and introduce hardier and productive bivoltine silkworm races and appropriate package of practices for mulberry garden and silkworm rearing technology suited to tropical conditions. The assistance is in the form of equipment supply, expert deployment and training. This is expected to result in production of international grade of raw silk in the country.

3. United Nations Development Programme:

The United Nations Development programme in collaboration with Government of India has initiated a sub-programme on development of non-mulberry silks-tasar, muga and eri in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Meghalaya, Nagaland and West Bengal under Fibres and Handicrafts Programme (FHAP) of Country Co-operation Frame Work (CCF-I). In Andhra Pradesh the focus is on the development of tasar.

4. SERI—2000

This project is a part of technical and scientific cooperation between Government of India and Switzerland. The project is being implemented over a period of Five Years from 1997-98 in the traditional States *viz.,* Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal.

(c) The CSB's role is to transfer technology of its Research and Development programmes to the State, provide, seed extension and training support to supplement the efforts of the State Governments and also give technical, financial assistance in critical or important areas in the agricultural or processing chain of sericulture.

Poor performance of Textile Units

3315. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the textile units in the country are showing poor performance;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have identified such textile units;

(d) whether any action plan has been formulated to improve the performance of loss making textile units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (e) The key indicators of performance *viz.* production of yarn, fabrics and exports are showing increasing trends in the last three years as follows:

Items	Unit	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001 (Provisional)
Production of yarn	Million Kg.	3658	3940	4079
Production of fabrics	Million Sq. Mtr.	36102	39202	40908
Textiles exports (excluding Jute, Coir & Handicrafts)	Million USS	10655	11260	12102

For modernization of the textile and jute industries, the Government has launched the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) *w.e.f.,* 1.4.99 for a period of 5 years. The scheme is being operated by the Nodal Agencies *viz.* IDBI, SIDBI & IFCI and their co-opted agencies. The scheme provides for reimbursement of *5%* interest charged by the financial institutions/banks on a project of technology upgradation in conformity with the scheme.

Setting-up separate parks and zones for unorganised handloom and powerloom Industries

†3316. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set-up separate parks or zones for unorganised handloom and powerloom industries for proper and balanced development of textile industry in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.